

CAPSULE  
8 MILE HOUSE (SITE) AND OUTBUILDING

It is a well documented fact that the York Turnpike was one of Maryland's major transportation routes from the late 18th century up into modern times. The hotels, taverns, wheelright shops, blacksmithies, etc. which served its traffic are important turnpike architecture. One of the important taverns was Towson's "8 Mile House" It is not known exactly when it was built although it is certain that it stood in the 1850's. It lasted until the 1930's and unfortunately is survived today only by a valuable photograph and a small brick outbuilding.

The tavern appears to have been a combination hotel and tavern with portions of the building being segregated according to function. The photograph suggests that the south end of the building served refreshments and that there were fairly many rooms elsewhere in the building. The same document shows outbuildings necessary for both food preparation and horse and wagon care, as well as a couple of travelers themselves.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA - 1755  
MAGI - 0317554405

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

8 Mile House (site)

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1310 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Towson

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Ninth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

☒ SITE

—OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

—OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

—NO

#### PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

—COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

—PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

—OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

C. Warner Price

Telephone #: 321-6740

STREET & NUMBER

1310 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Towson

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21204

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION SITE AND EXISTING DEPENDENCY**

BA-1755

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>June, 1979</u>

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

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The 1857 Taylor map of this area shows the "8 Mile House" on the west side of the York Turnpike just South of present day Seminary Avenue. An early photograph (late 19th century) provided by the Price family shows the building quite well. A sign saying "8 Mile House S. Price" can be seen hanging from the porch roof. The picture not only shows the tavern but includes partial views of two outbuildings, the road itself, several people on the porch, a horse and wagon, as well as a man on horseback.

The building in the photograph is a two story structure five bays wide and one long bay deep with a two story two bay projection to the back or West. It is a cross-gable facade with centrally located twin interior flue chimneys. The windows are all 4/4 sash including the round arch gable vent. A centrally located entrance, along with these chimneys, suggests a center hall plan flanked by large two bay parlors on the first level, however, at least two oddities of the building appear in the photo that suggest that the building seen is the result of an evolution.

The cross-gable, chimneys and entrance location give a strong centralized quality to the building but this balance is upset a good deal by the irregularity of the fenestration. The middle bay of the second level is off center to the right or North and the main entrance itself appears to be off center to the left or South. Although partially obliterated by a tree a second entrance of this facade appears to be located between the two southernmost windows. A separate entrance to the bar room perhaps identified by the sign for "lager" next to this door is a possible explanation for its presence. At any rate the openings of the east facade are not balanced.

Over exposure could make a clapboard facade appear more monolithic than it is, that is, a loss of detail would make it look stuccoed. The east facade of the 8 Mile House does appear to be masonry in the photograph while the south end of the building is clearly clapboard covered. However, so is the south end of the full first story porch of the main facade and it is closer to us than the main block itself suggesting that it is indeed stuccoed on this side.

The irregular fenestration and this disparity of exterior surfaces creates the possibility of at least two sections of differing ages. The evenness of the three northern bays with at least one masonry facade creates the possibility of a pre-

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

BA-1755

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES pre - 1850

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

It is a well documented fact that the York Turnpike was one of Maryland's major transportation routes from the late 18th century up into modern times. The hotels, taverns, wheelright shops, blacksmithies, etc. which served its traffic are important turnpike architecture. One of the important taverns was Towson's "8 Mile House." It is not known exactly when it was built although it is certain that it stood in the 1850's. It lasted until the 1930's and unfortunately is survived today only by a valuable photograph and a small brick outbuilding.

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Baltimore County Land Records  
 Baltimore County Will Records  
 "Map of the City & County of Baltimore" J.C. Sidney, 1850 Robert Taylor, 1857

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

See Attachment

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION

WAYNE L. NIELD, II  
 HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

Victorian building that was later enlarged by frame additions. It is a possibility which may never be verified one way or another. What we know is that an "8 Mile House" was here in 1850 and that this is the way it looked some time in the 19th century after S. Price acquired the property in 1870.

### Outbuildings

The photograph does not verify the belief that the existing brick structure on this site was a meathouse for the tavern. In the photograph two dependencies are visible. The one on the right (North) of the tavern is a shed roofed structure with an open side to the road which is most likely related to the sheltering and perhaps repairing of horses and wagons. On the left side of the photo a small building can be seen behind the main building. It is windowless, probably near a kitchen, and of the size common to meat-houses. It is gable roofed, its door faces the road and is painted white. It does not appear to be the structure standing on this site today, however, the photograph is far from proving that this is not a 19th century outbuilding associated with the "8 Mile House."

The small brick structure that is presently about 15 yards West of York Road appears to have been a dependency of the tavern and was probably a meathouse. In the 1930's it was opened up on two sides with large round arch doorways and used as a gazebo for the formal gardens that surround a Georgian Revival house.

The meathouse is constructed of uniform common bond brick with headers in every 8th or 9th row. It is nearly square measuring 12 feet 5 inches on the west side and 12 feet 3 inches on the north with an average of 7 feet 8 inches between the ground and eaves. There is an equilateral hipped roof of slate with boxed-in eaves that have a 9 inch overhang. A wooden block for attaching a door frame is sunk in the brickwork of the north door and suggests that this facade was the location of the single entrance. The original entrance was of course rectangular and was the only access in an otherwise windowless and doorless structure. Vandals have poked a sizable hole in the east wall.

The interior reveals a dirt floor which at present contains a thick layer of cinders. The interior was once whitewashed. The present roof is probably 20th century as is suggested by the 2" x 4" rafters joined with wire nails, however, they rest upon heavy plates that are hewn. These squared logs are 6 inches thick and 9 inches wide and appear to be lap joined at the corners of the building. It was impossible to see if there was a trunnel or not. The rafters are notched to fit the plates and are probably nailed in place although a single non-functional peg was observed protruding from the under edge of an east rafter.



CHAIN OF TITLE FOR EIGHT MILE HOUSE  
Parcel 220, Map 61

<u>LIBER</u>	<u>FOLIO</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>
1348	286	July 14, 1944	Walter M. Jenifer	C. Warner Price & wife
Beginning on the west side of York Turnpike Road at the intersection of the turnpike and the North 80° West 8 perches line of a tract called "Stone Adventure"				
1348	285	July 14, 1944	Margaret R. Price et al	Walter M. Jenifer
910	205	February 15, 1933	C. William Parker	Margaret R. Price et al
910	204	February 15, 1933	William C. Price et al	C. William Parker
833	473	October 31, 1929	Blanche S. Hamilton	William C. Price et al
573	21	April 28, 1923	James H. Hartman & wife	Charles E. Hamilton Blanche S. Hamilton
546	316	October 17, 1921	James W. Shea	James H. Hartman
259	98	January 3, 1902	John C. Parks & wife	James W. Shea

"all that tract of ground situate in Baltimore County on the west side of York Turnpike Road and known as the eight mile house"

259	96	January 3, 1902	John I. Yellott Executor	John C. Parks
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John I. Yellott, executor of the Last Will & Testament of Elizabeth Price, wife of Skelton Price, deceased. Elizabeth Price devised her property to her three

daughters, Virginia C. Burns, Katie E. Flowers, and Belle E. Hammond as tenants in common. In the event of a failure to agree on a fair division, she authorized her executor to sell.

The property contains 10 acres.

65	564	April 2, 1870	James E. Malambre	Elizabeth Price
----	-----	---------------	-------------------	-----------------

AWB 444	119	October 15, 1850	Joseph R. Burnett & wife	Emeline H. Malambre
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Conveyed by Last Will & Testament of Emeline H. Malambre to her son James E. Malambre, recorded in Will Book 3/196, 1867.



AWB 444/119      October 15, 1850      Joseph P. Burnett & wife      Emeline H. Malambre

Containing 10 acres

AWB 443      519      October 15, 1850      James Wilks, Jr. & wife      Joseph P. Burnett

AWB 397      482      June 6, 1848      James Wilks, Jr.      Joseph P. Burnett

Bond of Conveyance.

AWB 397      480      June 6, 1848      Coleman Yellott, Trustee      James Wilks, Jr.

Court of Equity:

February 26, 1848

Complainants - Martha Williams et al

Defendants - Robert Morrow et al

The court ordered the property to be sold and Coleman Yellott was appointed Trustee to make the sale.

LAST WILL & TESTAMENT  
EMELINE MALAMBRE

Emeline Malambre  
Will Book 3/196 1867

To son James E. Malambre - "...the House and land whereon I  
now reside...He shall not however  
sell...before the first day of  
January 1870..."

James E. Malambre was appointed executor of the will.

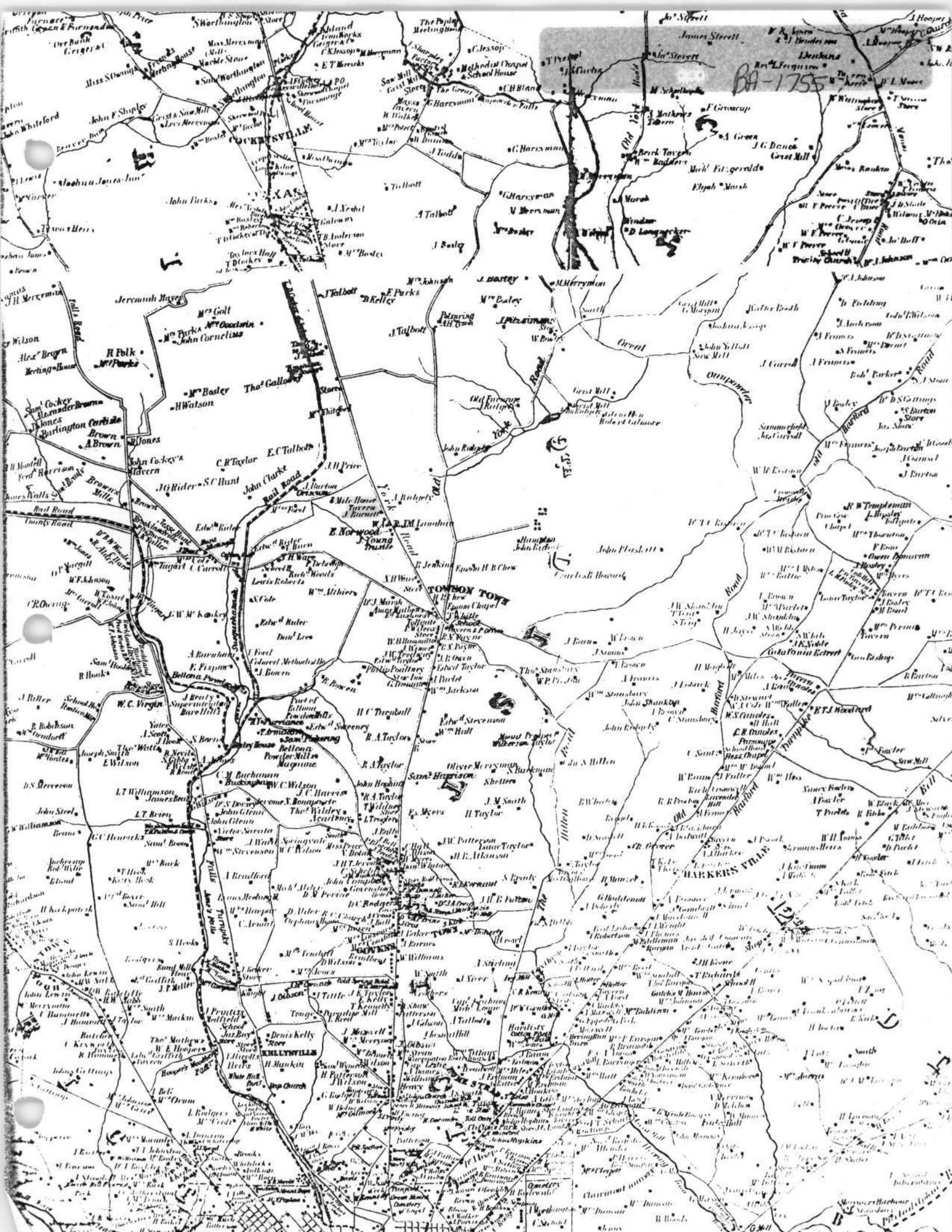
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LAST WILL & TESTAMENT  
ELIZABETH PRICE

Elizabeth Price  
Will Book 12/175 July 17, 1901

"I devise...to my three daughters, viz: Virginia C. Burns...  
Katie E. Flowers...Belle E. Hammond...all my real estate  
located in Baltimore County on the west side of the Balti-  
more and Yorktown Turnpike Road about one mile North of  
Towsontown, containing ten acres more or less, and commonly  
known as the "Eight Mile House..."

John I. Yellott, executor.









BASE MAP CONSTR

FROM 1957 QUAR





(BALTIMORE WEST)

Mapped by the Army Map Service  
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, USCE, and Maryland  
 Bureau of Control Surveys and Maps

Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs  
 taken 1943. Topography by planetable surveys 1944  
 Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1957

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
 zone 18, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which  
 landmark buildings are shown

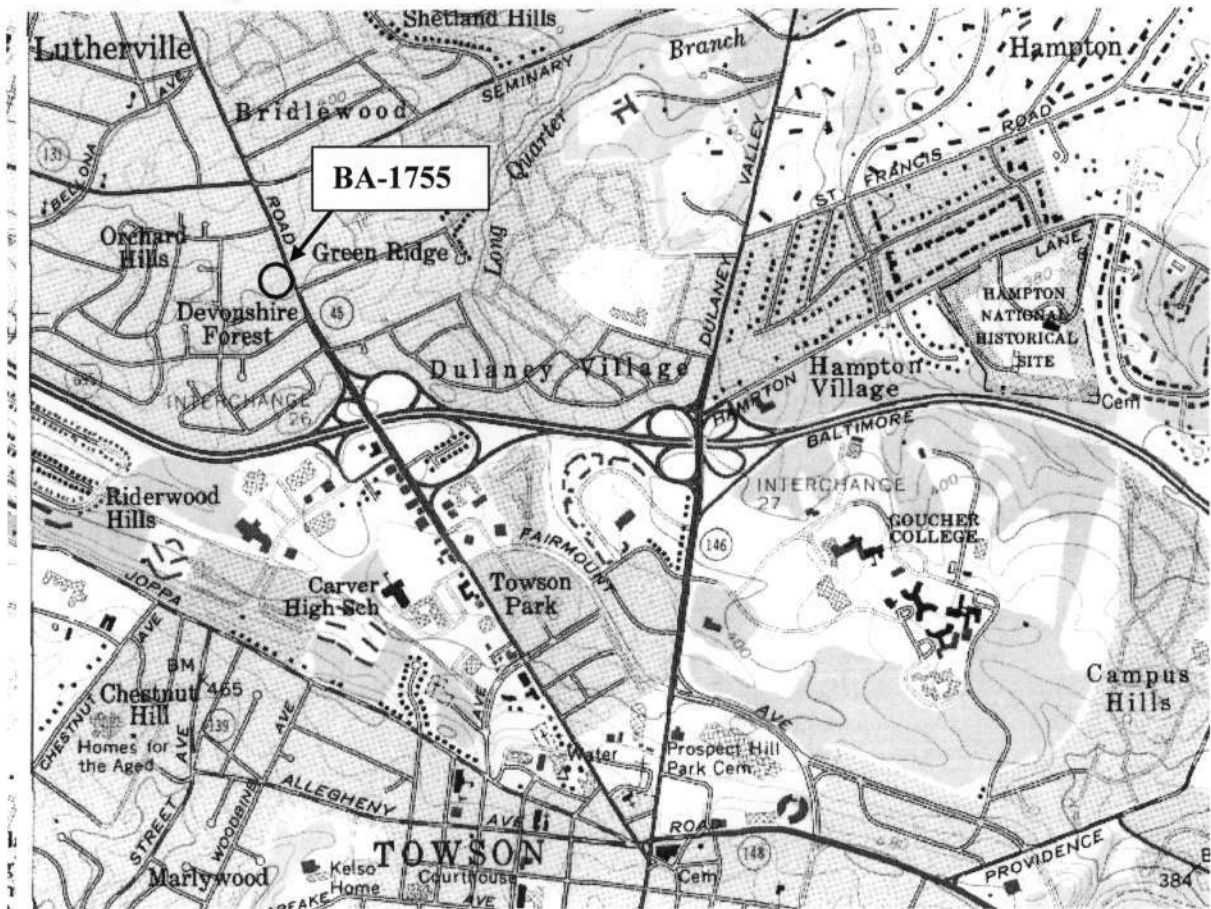
7 1/2°  
 TRUE NORTH  
 MAGNETIC NORTH  
 APPROXIMATE MEAN  
 DECLINATION, 1957

BA-1755

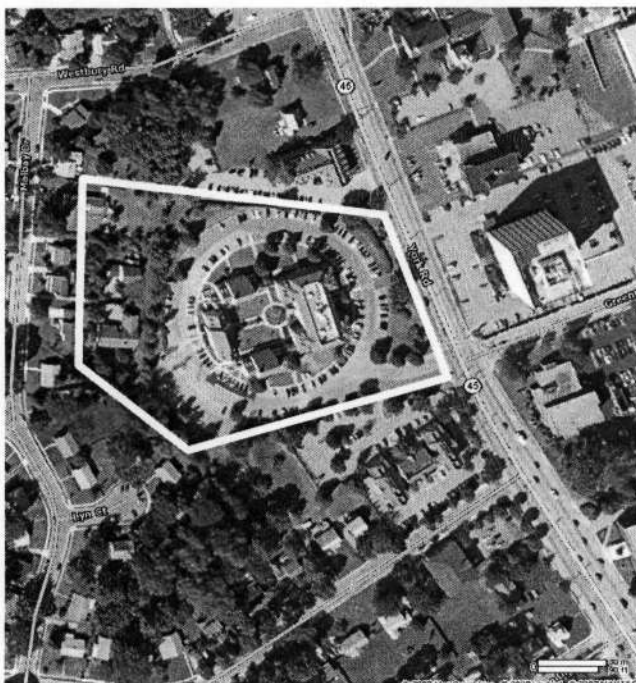
8 Mile House (site) & Outbuilding

1310 York Road (MD 45), Lutherville

Towson Quadrangle



Mapquest Aerial Photo, c. 2007





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8 MILE HOUSE

PHOTO - E. FACADE

J. CORCORAN

7/79



MEATHOUSE-

8 MILE HOUSE

N.E CORNER

J. CORCORAN

7/79